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eral mental depression or instability that lowers all the bodily functions, makes the individual anything but "good to live with," and destroys health and joy in living, (the whole influence of mind on body)—the term mental hygiene may be used with some satisfaction.

Mental Hygiene. That teachers may work in a school that has good medical supervision, school sanitation, physical education, and teaching of hygiene, *and still injure the health and joy of life in children*, scarcely needs demonstration. The teacher should be, first of all, healthy, physically and mentally, himself. The vigorous, buoyant, inspiring personality is the only kind that should be permitted to exercise a potent influence over children, where they are gathered together compulsorily, in large groups, as in a school. We cannot influence heredity nor the mental and physical health of parents very much as yet through eugenic measures. We cannot hope greatly to modify the horrible "de-educational" influence of nervous, ill-balanced, erratic parents; their baleful influence for years before school age may make of the child an almost hopeless case before he enters school. We are only now entering the field of home education for parenthood; the school nurse and our home-training courses are our opening wedges. But we can, to some extent, select our teachers. If we come to realize the importance of counteracting bad home influences in an age when parents are generally ignorant of the science and art of child rearing (although frequently versed in stock raising) and likewise the importance of supplementing and adding to good home influences, the present pitiful salaries of teachers will be so increased as to enable us to select a high grade of wholesome, dynamic types of teachers in our schools. Scholarship in a teacher is one criterion, professional training another, physical health and good common sense, others; but an indispensable characteristic is that sun-like disposition and skill in handling pupils that encourages the little human plants within range of her presence to grow normally, happily, and efficiently into social competency.*

"BE GOOD TO LIVE WITH" is a motto that well expresses the standard by which to judge those who would be examples to children. The heredity, the courage to live up to high ideals, the optimistic and inspiring outlook on life, the interest in the growth and well-being of others, the electric enthusiasm and elation which mark great personalities, must all be there. How pupils thrive and expand under the stimulus of such sunshine! How hard they try; how ambitiously and eagerly they attack their task of self-manufac-

turing; how their little evil habits and petty unnaturalness tend to melt like snow in the spring warmth! Only such teachers should be employed, and they are worth their weight in gold. Of such is the Kingdom of Heaven!

AN EDUCATIONAL APPEAL

(Continued from page 33)

bers of his family; and had the county, instead of being put to the necessity of spending this large amount of money in the prosecution and conviction of citizen who had within them potential good, directed its efforts to providing education, not only would the taxpayers have been in a better condition from a financial standpoint, but the moral strength of that community would have been a great deal better."

Teachers and school men everywhere will be interested to send for a copy of this bulletin which can be secured from the Bureau of Education upon request. The present-day problems in our public schools are presented in clear and forceful language. It is not to be expected that the solutions of these problems have yet been found but it is of very great significance for the ultimate solution of these problems that the lay citizen has become interested in them and sees their vital relation to the safety and perpetuity of our representative form of government.—L. A. W.

PROGRESS AT MOCKSVILLE

LAST September the Mocksville School opened for the first time for a term of nine months. It was and is the intention of the trustees and Superintendent Frank R. Richardson to raise the standard of the school so that it could get on the accredited list by the end of the present school year. To this end a third teacher was employed for full time high school work and the course of study improved. All the conditions for making the school an accredited school have been met except in the case of the science laboratory, to which the community is now giving attention. The community is also considering a bond issue for a new building. Effort will also be made for the school to receive benefit from the Smith-Hughes fund.

The school year has been marked by a spirit of progress. The student body is publishing a monthly paper called the *Black and Gold*, which is a creditable publication. The senior class has raised \$175 to purchase play-ground equipment and the junior class has raised \$100 toward a new library. The school is also greatly interested in athletics.

(*See Burbank's "The Human Plant.")